

Living Streams Mission
P.O. Box 339
Careywood, ID 83809
208-683-0937

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2015 APR 20 P 11:42
POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268

Shoshana Grove, Secretary
Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue, NW Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268

Re: Case # A2015-2

This letter is to protest the closing of the contract post office located on 95 highway in Careywood, Idaho.

Our business is located approximately 2 miles from the post office. We deliver on average, 2-3 full bags of boxes, 5 days a week to the post office. Our boxes are filled with liquid, perishable product. It cannot be left in bags by the road for a regular postal carrier to pickup. Picking up at our residence, would necessitate a driver going up a dirt road, up a mountain to pickup our packages which is not practical. It would also add an additional day for deliver to our customers, having to hold the packages over till the next day for pickup.

We have estimated that we do an average of over \$26,000.00 worth of business at the Careywood Post Office. See attached letter which has already been sent regarding the closure of the post office.

Since the preliminary closing of our post office, we have been taking the route to Bayview, Idaho to drop off our packages. This route is treacherous in the winter and late in the day has a lot of animal/deer activity being adjacent to Farragut State Park.

Dragging heavy bags across the parking lot and into the building is difficult for a 60 year old woman with an injured leg. Not to mention

trying to lift the bags up over the counter, which has to be done at both Bayview and Athol post offices. At the Careywood post office, they never left the ground and the distance to take them inside was about a third of what it takes to get them inside both the Bayview and the Athol post office. Also these two post offices are closed at lunch while the Careywood PO offered the luxury of being open all the time during business hours.

The Athol post office doesn't have the large PO boxes we paid for, so while this case is being decided, we are having our mail delivered to our home mail box at the bottom of our mountain road.

The Athol post office is a very busy post office and while they do their best to offer good customer service, there is always a line to wait in and likely will get longer with the additional "forced" traffic from our post office.

In a world where our small town post office makes our day, because of convenience, friendly people you look forward to seeing, above and beyond customer service, why must we have this too taken away from us. There is no safe way to get to either the Bayview or the Athol post office from here for postal customers. The added fuel for travel, plus 6 miles of caution signs for wildlife crossing, very slippery grades, etc. should be enough to offer this continued convenience to your postal customers.

The new Postal person, Carrie did upgrade and improve this post office and added a convenience store at her expense to provide something special for her community and now she is suffering huge financial losses due to the closure. She has done a lot to bring the community together, making us feel special and going the extra mile. So her reward for all her trouble is to close the post office.

For Careywood, the post office with its small town feel and convenience items. gave people a place to congregate and get to know one another and is the glue holding the community together. No doubt with all the added attention to being professional, the postal business at this location would have continued to grow over time.

Don't expect the community of Careywood to accept going to the Athol post office. If you were going to close any post office I would think the Bayview post office would be a more likely choice being off the beaten track rather than the Careywood post office that is right on 95 highway. Not to mention that with the bypass around Athol, the Athol post office is now off the beaten track too. Common use your head people. More people going by the Careywood post office than either Bayview or Athol so there must be some politics going on here because otherwise it just doesn't make any sense at all.

Our expense to do business is going to go way up if the Careywood post office is closed permanently. Please don't do this to our community.

Regards,
Wayne and Mary Blakeley, Managers
Living Streams Mission
549 Moose Ridge
Athol, Idaho 83801

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To Careywood Post Office,

All these numbers are estimates because the postal service does not seem to have a reporting system for totals.

2015, Jan 1 up to date 2/28/2015 total postage is	4339.44
2014 December	1927.34
2014 November	2433.04
2014 July total	1998.78
2014 June total	2461.24
Total estimate 2014 for 4 months	8820.04
Average for 6 months	2193.24/mo
Total average per year	26,318.88

If this post office was to close, I would have to go to UPS or Fed X to do business. Careywood is 3 miles from our office. Cocollalla is too far away and 15 miles out of our way north. It is too problematic to deal with Athol post office. In my opinion Athol has an anger problem, arrogant in the way they do business.

Bayview is too far away and the winters make it impossible to get there on time to do business there.

Wayne Blakeley, Pres. Manager
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